BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SYLVESTER W. BEACH, D.D.
SECRETARY

THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, U. S. A.
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

April 23, 1927

Rev. Courtland Robinson, D.D.,
Delhi, New York.

Dear Dr. Robinson:

A communication from Dr. Thompson to Dr. Maitland Alexander which I have seen intimates that the Committee is unanimous in reporting to the Assembly a recommendation that the two Boards of our Seminary be merged.

In view of this, I think it is well for your Committee on "Merging the Boards" to be advised of the situation and also of the history of the whole matter as recorded in the minutes of our Board.

At an adjourned meeting of the Board of Directors June 19, 1923, the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That whereas the 1923 General Assembly has passed the following resolution: 'The Assembly presents with approval to the management of the Theological Seminaries the proposal to reorganize by combination of the functions of Trustees and Directors in one body elected for a definite term of years';

"Therefore, Be it Resolved, That this Board requests the President of the Board to appoint a Committee of two ministers and one ruling elder, members of this Board, to make inquiry into and report to this Board upon said resolution of the General Assembly as it relates to the governning Boards of this Institution."

The following committee was appointed: Drs. Mudge and Robinson, Mr. Nichols.

At the meeting of the Board, October 9, 1923, the following letter, received from Dr. Mudge, was read by the Secretary of the Board, dated September 19, 1923:

"Rev. Sylvester W. Beach, D.D., Secretary,
Board of Directors,
Princeton, New Jersey.
My dear Dr. Beach:

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of Princeton Seminary to be held October 9th,

will you be kind enough to say for me, as Chairman of the Committee of the Board to consider the recommendation of the General Assembly respecting administration by a single Board, that since the appointment of the Committee, its members have been in correspondence and have made a beginning towards the preparation of a report. The summer months and the personal engagements of the members of the Committee have made a meeting of the Committee impossible.

It is the purpose of the Chairman to call a meeting of the Committee as soon as possible after his return from the West, and the Board may be assured that the matter committed to the Committee will have careful and thorough attention.

With kind regards,
Yours sincerely,
Lewis S. Mudge,
Stated Clerk."

On this letter no further action was taken further than to receive it.

At the meeting of the Board, May 5, 1924, the following report was presented:

"To the Board of Directors of
Princeton Theological Seminary,

Dear Brethren:-

At the meeting of the Board of Directors of Princeton Theological Seminary held in June 1923, the undersigned were appointed a Committee to which the following recommendation adopted by the General Assembly of 1923 was referred for consideration and report, namely, 'The Assembly presents with approval to the management of the Theological Seminaries, the proposal to reorganize by the continuation of the functions of Trustees and Directors in one body elected for a definite term of years'.

The above recommendation was a part of the Report of the Special Committee of the Assembly to visit the Theological Seminaries (Minutes 1923, p. 235). Your Committee has carefully considered the content and purpose of this recommendation, and unanimously recommends no action.

Respectfully submitted,
Lewis S. Mudge
Courtland Robinson
R. S. P. Nichols."

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The recommendation contained in the Report to the effect "That NO ACTION BE TAKEN" was unanimously adopted.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors, May 11, 1925, a communication was read by the Secretary from Dr. John Dixon, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, in which there was the following item: (The letter was under date of November 14, 1924).

"The following paper was presented by Mr. Holden and the Board accepted it:

'Resolved, that the President of this Board appoint a Committee of three, of which he shall be one, to meet a similar Committee from the Board of Directors to consider the question of the union of the two Boards of the Seminary. We recommend, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors,, that the President of the Seminary be the Chairman of such joint Committee'.

President Synnott appointed as the other members of the Committee of the Trustees Judge Relstab and Mr. Holden.

Cordially yours,
John Dixon."

At the meeting of the Board of Directors, May 12, 1925, in compliance with the request of the Board of Trustees, the President of the Board appointed the following committee:

"Committee to Confer with a Similar Committee of Trustees on the Question of Merging the Boards:-

Robinson
Mudge
Nichols."

At the meeting of the Board of Directors, October 13, 1925, the Committee on Merging the Boards reported that the Committee had held no meetings. The report was accepted.

At the Adjourned Meeting of the Board, Nov. 23, 1926, the following resolution growing out of a statement of Mr. Nichols was moved seconded and carried:

"Resolved, That the Board of Directors report to the General Assembly's Committee that it has appointed a Committee to confer with a like Committee of the Board of Trustees; that these two Committees have met and referred the legality of such merger to counsel; but as yet this Board has not been

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informed that any such opinion of counsel has been secured."

I am under the impression from unofficial information that has come to me that Judge Dixon, counsel of the Board of Trustees, was asked by the Board of Trustees for an official opinion on the question of the merger, and that the opinion was adverse. If such be the case, and your Committee should be able to get a copy of the opinion, it might throw more or less light upon the questions at issue.

You will receive next week the notice for the meeting of our Board on May 9th, and with it also a call for a special meeting to be held the same day at 11 o'clock in the morning.

Cordially & faithfully yours,

Sylvester W. Beach

Beardsley

1325 WALNUT STREET
WILLIAMSPORT, PA.

January 10, 1907

My dear Dr. Robeson:—

It was good of you to write so comforting a letter to me after my father's death. Many things have kept me from acknowledging, hitherto, the great number of such kind letters I have received. It is a great help to receive the assurance of sympathy, and I thank you most heartily.

Faithfully yours,

David Donald Grimes

Andes. Ny
April 30/11

Dear Dr. Robinson

I shall not attempt to express my profound gratitude, and that of the members of my family, for your gracious ministry to our beloved Wife and Mother and to us.

Our hearts are overwhelmed by this dispensation. We cling, in confident hope, to "The Rock" to which you led us—

Cordially Yours
M. Penn Bruce

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April 29, 1926

Rev. W. Courtland Robinson, D.D.,
Delhi, New York.

Dear Dr. Robinson:

Your letter of the 28th has just come, but too late to anticipate the letter I wrote you this morning.

I shall be very glad to engage a room for you at the Nassau Club for Monday night, May 10th. You may have possession of the room whenever you come.

In regard to what you say regarding the issue arising between the Board of Directors and the Trustees, so far as I know no action has yet been taken by the Trustees that would suggest friction that would likely arise at our meeting May 10th. Whatever may be the purpose of the Trustees, I happen to know that such purpose has not yet taken the form of action. There will be no meeting held by them until after the meeting of our Board, and while it may be possible that the Trustees may then endeavor to block on the financial plea certain action that our Board may take regarding professors, I am persuaded that a resolute program on our part will not and cannot be successfully met by subsequent action of the Trustees; nor do I think that a better way could be found to reconcile whatever differences there may be between the two bodies than for the Directors to face candidly and firmly the situation in the Seminary and apply the proper remedy without delay.

With warmest regards, I am

Cordially and faithfully yours,

Sylvester W. Beach